

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 11, 2008 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 15-17 and 19 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claim 21 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 8-20 are currently pending.

The Office Action indicated that claims 8-14 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

Claims 15-20 are respectfully submitted for consideration in view of the following remarks.

The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Office Action appears to have taken the position that the drawings do not illustrate an acquiring unit, matching unit, processor, and outputting unit. The Office Action indicated that these features must be shown in the drawings or canceled from the claims.

As indicated above, claims 15-17 and 19 have been amended to remove any reference to an acquiring unit, matching unit, processor, or outputting unit. As such, Applicants submit that the objection to the drawings is rendered moot and it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the Office Action appears to have asserted that the acquiring unit, matching unit, processor, and outputting unit were not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the invention at the time the application was filed. Claim 21 has been canceled. However, Applicants submit that this rejection is rendered moot, with respect to claims 15-20, for at least the following reasons.

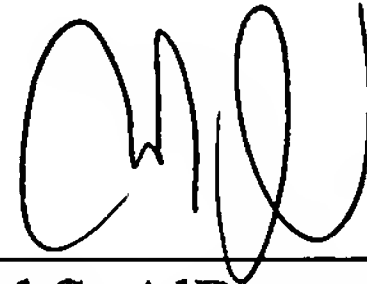
As discussed above, claims 15-17 and 19 have been amended to remove any reference to an acquiring unit, matching unit, processor, or outputting unit. Support for claims 15-20 may be found throughout the specification, such as on page 8, lines 7-33, page 9, lines 12-20, page 9, line 31 – page 10, line 16, page 11, lines 29-34, page 12, line 26 – page 13, line 25, page 13, line 32 – page 15, line 24. Therefore, Applicants submit that the subject matter of claims 15-20 is clearly described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the invention at the time the application was filed. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this objection is rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action did not include any prior art rejections. Applicants submit that all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and overcome, as discussed above. Applicants therefore respectfully request that all of claims 8-20 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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